

Executive Director Report
January 26, 2005

Budget/Administration

- Budget Change Proposal approved for inclusion in Governor's 2006/07 budget (addition of \$30,000).
- Salary Savings during staff leave (approximate savings of \$6,000, to date).
- Administrative process streamlining (anticipate savings of \$2,000 for 2006).
- New meeting location (approximate savings of \$1,200 for 2006).
- Developing Executive Director evaluation process for review in March 2006.

Legislation

AB 797 (Wolk), Delta Protection Commission
AB 798 (Wolk), Flood Protection
SB 200 (Machado), Conservancy
SB 1024 (Torlakson), Flood Protection
SCR 62 (Torlakson), Trail

Facilitation

- Delta Mercury Collaborative.
- Abandoned Vessel Removal Program.
- North Delta Improvement Program Cost/Benefit Analysis discussions.
- Resource Conservation and Development Council bio-fuels Steering Committee.
- Lower Yolo Bypass Management Plan forum.
- Networking with legislative staff and Resource Department Directors.

Public Affairs/Outreach

- Made presentation to Yolo Bypass Working Group about the DPC.
- Participated on panel presentation to Sacramento County and State Bar Environmental Law Sections entitled Separating Fact From Fear: Flood Risks, Environmental Protection and Development in the Sacramento Delta. Other panel members were: Emma Suarez, State Reclamation Board member; Betsy Marchand, former State Reclamation Board member; and Tom Graff, California Regional Director, Environmental Defense. Keynote speaker was Sandra Ikuta, General Counsel, California Resources Agency on behalf of Secretary Chrisman.
- Represented Commission at Northern Counties Habitat Conservation Program annual meeting.
- Represented Commission at Association of California Water Agencies annual conference.
- Met with new Director of Delta Keeper to identify channels of communication and collaboration, and participated in visioning process interview.
- Attended Congressman Mike Thompson's Town Hall meeting in Clarksburg.
- Provided information to Contra Costa Times, Stockton Record, Los Angeles Times, Fairfield Daily Republic, Sacramento Bee, Capitol Press, S.F. Research Magazine, and inside Cal EPA.

Projects

- Submitted application for Prop. 50 Working Landscapes Grant in the amount of \$1.2 million to facilitate Delta-wide demonstration projects and branding through festivals and educational forums.
- Prepared Annual Report to the Governor and the Legislature.
- Provided letter of comment to, and testified before, the Regional Water Quality Control Board on behalf of Delta Mercury Collaborative.
- Provided comments to, and appeared before, the Yolo County Planning Commission on Old Sugar Mill Project revised Draft Program Environmental Impact Report.
- Facilitated process for formation of non-profit entity and developing funding strategy for development of Delta Discovery Center and signage.
- Participated in Department of Fish and Game Management Plan workshop.
- Provided Letters of Comment on several proposals for both primary and secondary zones.
- Participated in Resource Agency/CALFED Implementing Agencies Department Directors meetings to provide local perspective in Delta Visioning discussions.
- Participated in Yolo Integrated Regional Water Management Plan workshop to assure inclusion of Delta interests.
- Participated in South Delta Improvement Program discussions facilitated by Department of Boating and Waterways.
- Coordinated removal of abandoned vessels at Staten Island.
- Participated in discussions with Sacramento County regarding potential conservation and agriculture easements.
- Participated in legislative discussions regarding Federal Farm Bill.
- Facilitated discussions for removal of hazard at Mayberry Slough.